

School of Nursing Unit Plan 1990 - 1993

VISION STATEMENT

The purpose of the School of Nursing is to educate individuals aspiring to become professional nurses and those wishing to advance in the profession. The School of Nursing offers baccalaureate and master's degree programs in nursing and collaborates in continuing education endeavors serving the region. The major function of the school is education, supported by faculty and student research and other scholarly activities and service. The faculty and staff are committed to quality undergraduate and graduate education demonstrated through outstanding teaching and to positively impacting the quality of health care of their publics through effective nursing leadership for the community-at-large. In order to meet the needs of the dynamically changing health care system, graduates with baccalaureate degrees are prepared for beginning positions as nurse generalists, able to function in a wide variety of acute care or community health settings. The graduates with master's degrees are prepared for leadership positions in advanced clinical practice or in nursing services administration.

During the planning period, the School of Nursing will focus on priorities which emphasize program expansion, undergraduate teaching, student learning, faculty development in research, physical facility improvement, and increased regional and national visibility.

ELEMENTS OF DISTINCTION

- ♦ Strong interest in and support for the School of Nursing from the community and the health care agencies in eastern North Carolina
- ♦ Specially-funded outreach educational programs for undergraduate and graduate nursing majors in response to regional needs as part of a statewide plan
- ♦ Nationally accredited programs in nursing that are highly valued by the health care industry

- ♦ Wide variety of health care settings available in the region as clinical sites for student learning
- ♦ Singular placement in a vast rural region which can serve as an ideal laboratory to test nursing interventions and measure client outcomes

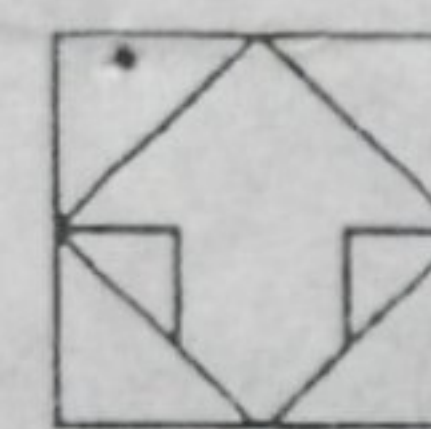
PRIORITIES FOR ACTION

1. Achieve distinction in undergraduate education

- a. Redesign the RN-BSN program to be more attractive and effective in meeting the learning needs of the already practicing nurse
- b. Develop a stronger affiliation agreement with the School's primary clinical teaching facility, Pitt County Memorial Hospital
- c. Implement the revised curriculum plan for the undergraduate program by predetermined stages with ongoing review
- d. Integrate health policy issues more fully throughout the undergraduate as well as the graduate curricula
- e. Consider offering selected senior year undergraduate nursing courses in the Goldsboro outreach site
- f. Enhance student performance through the incorporation of more computer mediated learning as an adjunct to classroom experience
- g. Prepare for the North Carolina Board of Nursing visit during the Spring of 1992
- h. Design and implement a self-paced learning program for nursing students to enrich their study

2. Strengthen the commitment to excellence in teaching

- a. Strengthen clinical teaching, particularly through the use of adjunct clinical instructors and other technological modalities
- b. Examine the feasibility of using ability grouping of students in certain theory or clinical courses



- c. Explore and develop additional clinical teaching sites, particularly in rural settings
- d. Integrate more appropriate teaching and learning strategies to meet individual student learning needs
- e. Improve current personnel policies and practices to attract, retain, and promote outstanding faculty

3. Develop a university culture based on respect for individual rights and human diversity

- a. Increase diversity in faculty by targeting two or three potential candidates from minority groups for appointment within the next three years
- b. Increase ethnic and cultural diversity in the graduate student body through more vigorous recruiting efforts guided by a marketing taskforce
- c. Maintain an intellectual and ethical climate conducive to professional integrity and development

4. Expand doctoral programs

- a. Consider movement in the direction of doctoral studies in nursing
- b. Conduct a feasibility study to assess variables related to development of options in rural community health and primary care in the graduate program
- c. Expand the enrollment in the graduate program by 10 percent each year for the next three years
- d. Pursue offering a clinical major in the graduate program to an outreach site with Fayetteville as the probable choice as a cooperative venture with the North Carolina Area Health Education Center program

5. Strengthen the commitment to research, scholarship, and creative activity

- a. Develop and implement a model faculty practice plan
- b. Increase scholarly activities by developing a professional career development plan for each faculty member, which details goals related to research, funded projects, presentations, and scholarly publications

- c. Increase the productivity of faculty in research and scholarly activities by instituting appropriate policies within the School

- d. Increase the level of interdisciplinary involvement in research efforts

- e. Develop the primary research mission of the School of Nursing as including but not limited to the study of rural health problems

6. Improve teacher education and stimulate improvement in public schooling

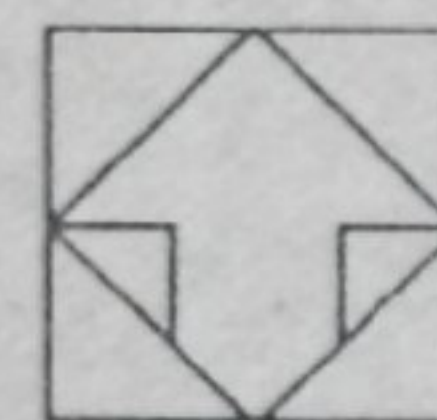
- a. Increase the emphasis on the health care needs of school children by providing instruction for school nurses and teachers in the public systems
- b. Strengthen the teaching functional area of the graduate program to prepare teachers of nursing for community colleges and universities or for nursing staff development

7. Recruit and support academically proficient and talented students

- a. Develop more vigorous marketing and recruitment strategies not only for recent high school graduates but also for nontraditional and transfer students
- b. Conduct periodic evaluation of admission and progression policies
- c. Work with University support services to upgrade information services for use in student advising
- d. Review the student advisement program by faculty selection and evaluation of data
- e. Involve alumni in recruiting efforts
- f. Increase number and size of private scholarships

8. Advance the University effectively to external publics

- a. Develop and project a new image for the School of Nursing, portraying it as a center for professional nursing education, research, and faculty practice within a rural setting



b. Increase the contribution of faculty to the profession through leadership activities on a state and national level with appropriate release time

c. Encourage faculty involvement in continuing education activities for the School's nursing constituency

d. Generate a sustained commitment of School of Nursing alumni to the School's programs and mission

e. Support the goals in Pitt County's 2007 strategic plan, particularly those relating to health care

9. *Develop and use expanded information resources*

a. Improve computer compatibility within the School of Nursing

b. Increase the skills of all faculty in the use of information technology for instructional and administrative purposes

c. Update and refurbish the skills laboratory to reflect contemporary nursing practice

d. Expand the Learning Resources Center in order to increase its services and accessibility for promotion of student learning

e. Expand the capability of the computer lab to include word processing applications

f. Provide in-office computers for Associate Dean and department chairs

g. Explore linkages in communication systems with the University Medical Center of Eastern Carolina—Pitt County

10. *Provide effective stewardship of the University*

a. Improve organizational incentives for recruiting and retaining faculty in light of competitive marketplace conditions

b. Conduct a feasibility study of alternative sites for the School of Nursing in order to provide adequate private office space and classrooms in a single building

c. Improve environmental aesthetics and safety within the School of Nursing Building

d. Examine, and if necessary, revise the structure of the faculty organization to promote maximum productivity and efficiency

e. Cultivate a work milieu conducive to professional development and job satisfaction

f. Review and revise the existing curricula in an effort to develop cost-effective professional programs

g. Persist in efforts to systematically monitor student outcomes and to evaluate overall student development